



Mapping 2021:

HOT's Strategic Plan 2019 – 2021

Background

Given the short-term nature of humanitarian funding and project-centered work, HOT has historically operated under relatively short-term, often one-year planning cycles. The most recent strategic plan concluded in 2015. In 2016 and 2017, we produced annual staff workplans that were approved by HOT's Board of Directors.

As HOT continues to grow (community, funding, and impact), the HOT 2017-18 Board of Directors suggested HOT undergo a strategic planning process with a longer-term outlook. This would take the form of a structured process, facilitated by the Executive Director and Board but with significant input from the voting membership and key representatives of the broader community. The goal: produce a working, flexible plan to guide, but not dictate, the global community's activities through 2021 and beyond.

HOT's Board of Directors met in a face to face meeting on the sidelines of the 2017 HOT Summit in Ottawa, Canada. During this meeting, facilitators from Accenture led the board through a series of exercises designed to generate ideas and build a foundation for starting work on the plan.

In December 2017, HOT's senior management met at HOT's Washington, D.C. OpenGov Hub office to further refine ideas and work on moving from ideas to action. The outputs from these meetings were merged into a general framework in this document.

From April 2018 through August 2018, a Working Group was formed, comprised of HOT voting members interested in contributing to HOT's strategic plan. Membership feedback and ideas were collected within this group's meetings and shared with the membership in writing as well as in the HOT Annual General Meeting in May 2018. At the HOT Summit in Dar es Salaam in August 2018, a draft of this document was shared with HOT voting members in attendance. Valuable feedback was received on the direction of the document as well as the overall strategy of HOT. In subsequent months, the draft was revised and input received through discussions in four additional Strategic Working Group meetings. Apart from that, members had the opportunity to further comment in the document directly.

This Strategic Plan document represents the collective vision of HOT's voting members, Board, and staff team. Input from partner organizations is also incorporated into the plan.

HOT's Purpose/Mission

*"to promote, support and advocate the creation, maintenance, use, distribution and availability of free, geographically-referenced data and geospatial information ("geodata"): a) to facilitate and provide humanitarian aid in the United States and throughout the world; and b) to permit faster and more efficient means to relieve poverty and foster economic development, to ameliorate the plight of the poor, the sick, the hungry, and the disabled and provide for their relief, care, shelter, protection, and sustenance as a result of wars, civil strife, earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, droughts, and other man-made and natural disasters ("disasters");"**

*There are a four additional purposes including deployment, coordination, education and training, research and studies. [Full text](#)

HOT's Vision of the World

<i>HOT envisions a world where...</i>		
<p>Everyone is counted Open high quality base map everywhere.</p>		
<p>Map data is accessible and used Humanitarian & development actors, individuals, and communities have access to and the ability to use this data in decision making that can save lives, reduce suffering, & achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).</p>		
<p>Everyone can engage and contribute to the map Every community and institution has open tools and knowledge to catalyze change through open mapping; working together via a global network.</p>		
Supporting Pillars		
<p>Mapping & Training Remote disaster activations and field deployments to train, build capacity, map for most complex challenges</p>	<p>Tech Innovation A home for leading free and open source humanitarian map/geodata tools</p>	<p>People & Community Building the HOT global network, development of mapping communities & peer to peer knowledge exchange</p>
<p>Partnerships Relationships with NGOs, multilaterals, donors, private sector, tech industry, and academia in support of all pillars</p>		